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## Mexico

**Post:** Mexico

### Pork Price and Trade Snapshot

**Report Categories:**

Livestock and Products

Agriculture in the Economy

Agriculture in the News

Market Promotion/Competition

Promotion Opportunities

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**Report Highlights:**

Recent news articles have decried the large volume of imported U.S. pork and pork offals entering Mexico as a source of frustration for the local industry with elected officials and Mexican industry representatives calling for an investigation into industry practices and for stringent inspection of imported products even though year to date imports are lower than last year. Also, price data reveals that the U.S. remains a low-cost provider of pork to Mexico and sales should be strong.

**General Information:**

Mexico is the largest volume market and second greatest value market (behind Japan) for U.S. origin pork and pork offal. According to U.S. Customs statistics, in 2012, the United States exported over 577 thousand metric tons of pork products to Mexico which amounted to over 26 percent of all U.S. pork product exports. The next closest volume market was Japan at nearly 455 thousand metric tons. By value, exports to Mexico were just over \$1 billion while exports to Japan were nearly \$2 billion. According to Mexican statistics, Mexican pork and pork offal exports in 2012 to all destinations almost reached 75 thousand metric tons and were valued at nearly \$390 million. Mexico's largest markets by volume and value were, respectively; Japan, the United States, and South Korea.

The United States remains Mexico's largest foreign supplier of pork and pork offal with almost a 90 percent market share. The next closest supplier is Canada. Over half of the imports from the United States are of fresh and chilled hams or picnic that are primarily used for the processing and manufacture of deli meat in Mexico. Nearly all of the products enter via land/border crossing points on truck with the largest crossing points being Colombia, Nuevo Leon (northwest of Laredo, Texas); Reynosa, Tamaulipas (opposite of McAllen, Texas); and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (opposite Laredo, Texas). Mexican Customs data indicates that imports of U.S. pork and pork offals are lower nearly 5 percent for the first two months of 2013 in comparison with the same period last year. (NOTE: U.S. Customs statistics data is available through March 2013 and indicates that U.S. exports for the first three months of the year are nearly 15 percent lower than the same period in 2012. END NOTE).

As seen in Chart 1, below, U.S.-origin reported ham and picnic prices, FOB Plant, remain significantly lower than Mexican national prices for comparable products and, as expected, prices recorded by Mexican customs authorities for imported U.S. product fall between U.S. and Mexican national prices. The data indicates that the greatest margin for products is between U.S. and Mexican picnic with April 2012 U.S. picnic prices just below \$1.00 per kilogram and Mexican picnic a little below \$3.50 per kilogram.

Chart 2, below, displays prices for belly, loin, and butt cuts in Mexico and from the United States. In each category, Mexican prices are higher now than U.S. FOB Plant prices for a comparable product. However, at certain periods Mexican butt values were lower than U.S. priced butt values indicating that there could have been an attractive market for Mexican exports.

Table 1. Mexico: Imports of Pork and Pork Offal from World (Unit: Metric Tons)

Commodity	Description	Calendar Year			Year To Date		
		2010	2011	2012	02/2012	02/2013	% Change
HTS	All Pork and Pork Offal	707131	634697	726086	128387	124517	-3.01
020311	Carcasses & Half-Carcasses Of Swine Fresh, Chilled	22071	10497	11440	3231	1357	-58.01
020312	Meat, Swine, Hams, Shldrs, Bone In, Frsh Or Chlld	342802	313290	368956	61735	63807	3.36
020319	Meat Of Swine, Nesoi, Fresh Or Chilled	56054	40737	52473	11979	10605	-11.47
020321	Carcasses And Half-Carcasses Of Swine, Frozen	1	73	0	0	0	NA
020322	Meat, Swine, Hams, Shoulders Etc, Bone In, Frozen	7213	2697	4870	475	1182	148.55
020329	Meat Of Swine, Nesoi, Frozen	71713	63442	78478	13234	14457	9.25
020630	Offal Of Swine, Edible, Fresh Or Chilled	73405	83725	99112	17185	15258	-11.21
020641	Livers Of Swine, Edible, Frozen	8	0	0	0	0	NA
020649	Offal Of Swine Except Livers, Edible, Frozen	105243	93999	84230	16257	13524	-16.81
021011	Hams, Shoulders & Cuts, Bone In, Salted, Drd, Smkd	70	145	232	8	6	-24.86
021012	Meat Of Swine, Bellies (Bacon Etc), Cured Etc	16968	16105	15653	2790	2561	-8.21
021019	Meat Of Swine Nesoi, Salted, In Brine, Dried, Smkd	1999	2006	1788	320	323	0.91
160241	Prepared Or Preserved Swine Nesoi, Hams Etc	1088	933	1120	127	141	11.07
160242	Prepared Or Preserved Swine Nesoi, Shoulders Etc	33	6	5	0	0	NA
160249	Prepared Etc. Swine Meat, Offal, Etc. Nesoi	8464	7042	7730	1046	1296	23.95

Source of Data: INEGI [2006-present]

Table 2. Mexico: Imports of Pork and Pork Offal from United States (Unit: Metric Tons)

Commodity	Description	Calendar Year			Year To Date		
		2010	2011	2012	02/2012	02/2013	% Change
HTS	All Pork and Offal	620397	572059	655005	116906	111532	-4.6
020311	Carcasses & Half-Carcasses Of Swine Fresh, Chilled	19649	10444	11440	3231	1357	-58.01
020312	Meat, Swine, Hams, Shldrs, Bone In, Frsh Or Chlld	308136	292974	347011	58712	59477	1.3
020319	Meat Of Swine, Nesoi, Fresh Or Chilled	51278	38764	47828	11230	9668	-13.91
020321	Carcasses And Half-Carcasses Of Swine, Frozen	1	54	0	0	0	NA
020322	Meat, Swine, Hams, Shoulders Etc, Bone In, Frozen	5523	1429	3527	248	999	302.44
020329	Meat Of Swine, Nesoi, Frozen	63338	58616	72413	12530	12996	3.72
020630	Offal Of Swine, Edible, Fresh Or Chilled	63641	72858	84092	14806	13133	-11.3
020641	Livers Of Swine, Edible, Frozen	8	0	0	0	0	NA
020649	Offal Of Swine Except Livers, Edible, Frozen	83436	73740	65341	12459	10056	-19.29
021011	Hams, Shoulders & Cuts, Bone In, Salted, Drd, Smkd	1	52	117	1	0	-100
021012	Meat Of Swine, Bellies (Bacon Etc), Cured Etc	14570	13957	13488	2349	2231	-5.03
021019	Meat Of Swine Nesoi, Salted, In Brine, Dried, Smkd	1364	1306	1019	188	188	-0.17
160241	Prepared Or Preserved Swine Nesoi, Hams Etc	992	858	1059	120	136	13.05
160242	Prepared Or Preserved Swine Nesoi, Shoulders Etc	30	0	0	0	0	NA
160249	Prepared Etc. Swine Meat, Offal, Etc. Nesoi	8430	7006	7671	1032	1292	25.2

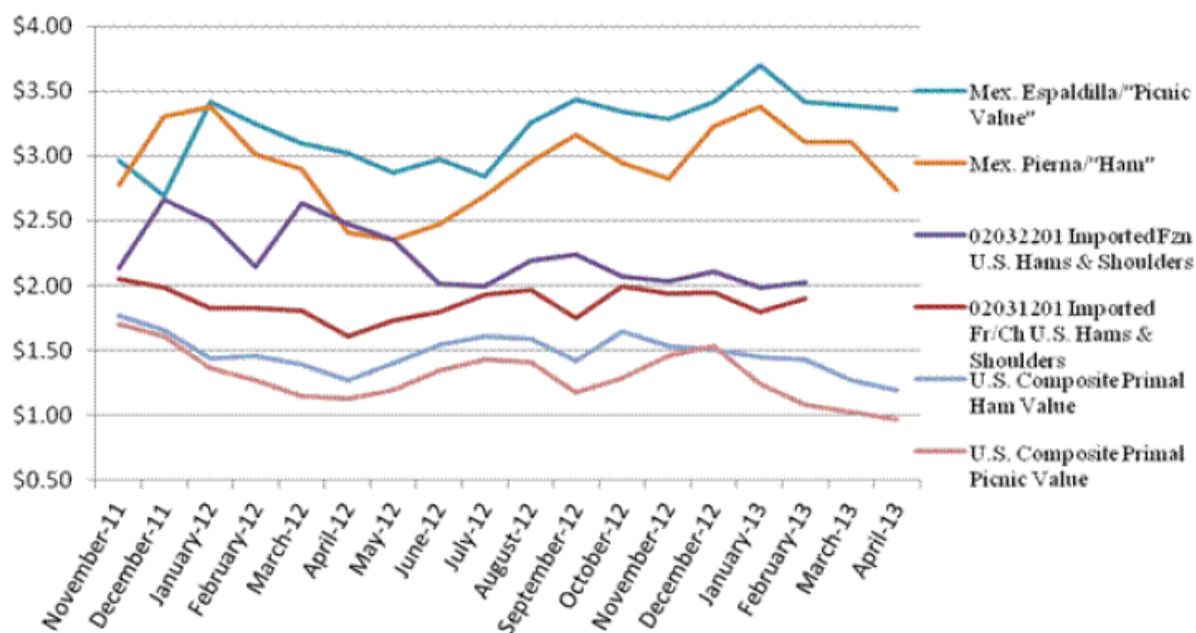
Source of Data: INEGI [2006-present]

Table 3. Mexico: Imports of U.S. Pork and Pork Offal by Port (Unit: Metric Tons)

District	Calendar Year			Year To Date		
	2010	2011	2012	Feb-12	Feb-13	%Δ 13/12
All Port Districts	620397	572059	655005	116906	111532	-4.6
Colombia, N.L.	232668	199540	268157	46860	45933	-1.98
Cd. Reynosa, TAMP.	122149	146757	161849	28524	27702	-2.88
Nuevo Laredo, TAMP.	158110	130360	121671	23367	21058	-9.88
Cd. Juarez, CHIH.	45953	46376	48751	9027	9010	-0.18
Tijuana, B.C.	18240	19048	22707	3532	3032	-14.14
Nogales, SON.	24518	16104	19209	2952	2730	-7.51
Mexicali, B.C.	6765	6647	6757	952	1033	8.46
Piedras Negras, COAH.	11825	7002	5700	1670	1004	-39.86
San Luis Rio Colorado, SON.	63	122	110	1	0	-100
Cancun, Q. ROO	35	65	83	22	26	20.34
Progreso, YUC.	53	23	10	1	2	33.28

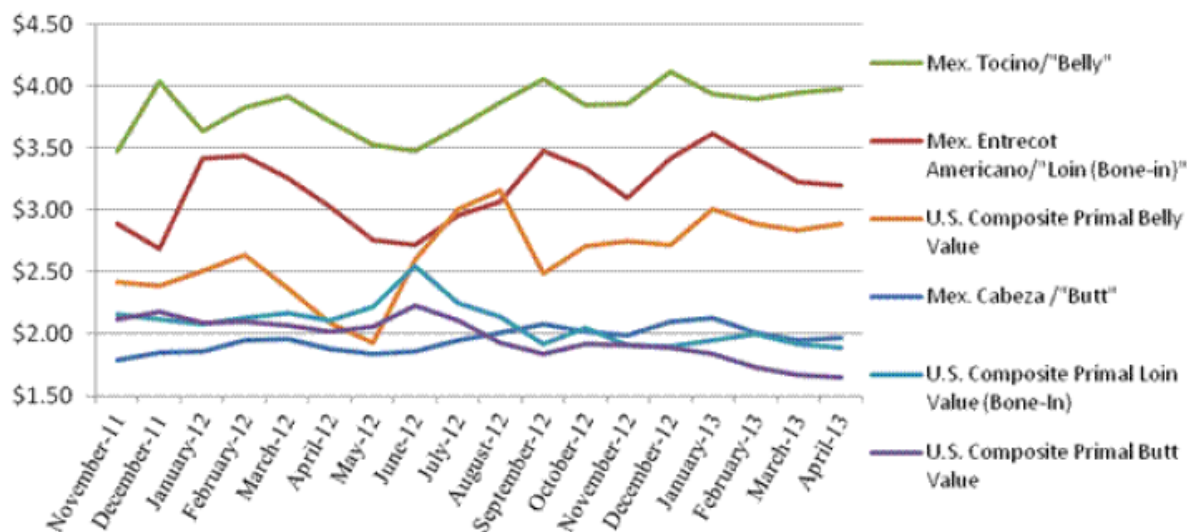
Source of Data: INEGI [2006-present]

Chart 1. Mexico: Comparison of U.S. and Mexican Pork Ham and Picnic Prices (Unit: \$/Kg)



Source: Pierna and Espaldilla prices from [Economia-SNIIM Sintesis Informativa](#) converted from pesos per kilogram on monthly average exchange rates from Bank of Mexico, U.S. Composite Primal Ham and Picnic Values from [USDA-AMS Livestock and Grain Market News](#) are FOB Plant and converted from dollars per hundred weight, and trade prices from INEGI converted from dollars per metric ton.

Chart 2. Mexico: Comparison of U.S. and Mexican Pork Belly, Loin, and Butt Prices  
(Unit: \$/Kg)



Source: Tocino, Entrecot Americano, and Cabeza prices from [Economia-SNIIM Sintesis Informativa](#) converted from pesos per kilogram on monthly average exchange rates from Bank of Mexico, U.S. Composite Primal Belly, Loin, and Butt Values from [USDA-AMS Livestock and Grain Market News](#) are FOB Plant and converted from dollars per hundred weight.

#### Author Defined:

#### For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at [www.mexico-usda.com](http://www.mexico-usda.com) or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at [www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov) for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

#### Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
<a href="#">MX3025</a>	Broad and Deep Mexico and U.S. Ag Trade Relationship	3/21/2013
<a href="#">MX3021</a>	What is Mexico Buying and Selling	3/8/2013
<a href="#">MX3016</a>	Livestock and Products Semi-Annual	3/4/2013
<a href="#">MX2092</a>	Facilitating Red Meat Trade and Avoiding Costly Delays	12/12/2012
<a href="#">MX2090</a>	Mexican Pork Sector Crosses the Great Wall of China	11/30/2012
<a href="#">MX2089</a>	Tariff Reduction Upsets Domestic Industry	11/30/2012
<a href="#">MX2065</a>	2012 Mexican Livestock and Products Annual	9/9/2012
<a href="#">MX2061</a>	Mexico Declares itself free of CSF and Avian Salmonella	8/14/2012
<a href="#">MX2060</a>	New Options to Obtain SENASICA Import-Export Documents	8/14/2012
<a href="#">MX2503</a>	Exporting to Mexico – Managing Border Entry Issues	3/22/2012

<a href="#">MX2016</a>	2012 Livestock and Products Semi-Annual	3/21/2012
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**Useful Mexican Web Sites:** Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at [www.sagarpa.gob.mx](http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx), equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at [www.economia.gob.mx](http://www.economia.gob.mx) and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at [www.salud.gob.mx](http://www.salud.gob.mx). These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.